

CALFED Policy Group

Public Meeting

August 12, 1999

9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Capitol Plaza Holiday Inn

California Room

300 J Street

Sacramento

ERRATUM

The following page replaces page 3 of the South Delta/Lower San Joaquin Actions cover memo.

CALFED Policy Group
August 4, 1999
Page 3

planning gets underway in close coordination with the affected agencies and stakeholders.

CALFED has recognized the great importance of maintaining close coordination and linkages between various actions to assure balance, efficiency, harmony among various interest groups. By proposing to implement Program actions as a series of discrete projects, rather than a single comprehensive project, CALFED risks losing the very coordination and linkage so important to overall success. At the same time, it is clear from a practical standpoint that project level planning must be broken into manageable units in order to move forward. Therefore, while striking this balance between very large integrated projects and smaller, discrete projects, CALFED must give a great deal of attention to providing the appropriate linkages between individual projects.

Some of the required linkages are already in place as part of the interim Program structure. Policy Group meetings, BDAC meetings, and a large number of stakeholder/agency meetings provide useful venues for communication and coordination on implementation issues. The current budget processes, including federal, state, and local levels, provide further opportunities for coordination and negotiation to achieve a reasonable balance between competing priorities. In addition, existing laws and regulations provide a framework for agency decisions, which can create strong linkages expressed in terms of permit decisions and other actions.

However, additional linkage and assurance mechanisms need to be carefully considered on a case by case basis to assure all agencies and stakeholders that the appropriate balance and coordination will be achieved. Potential additional linkage mechanisms under consideration include contracts, legislation (including bond measures), interagency agreements, and agency directives. CALFED is committed to exploring and implementing the appropriate linkage mechanisms to assure Program integration as implementation proceeds.

Action

Concurrence Item: CALFED staff is seeking Policy Group concurrence with the general implementation approach proposed in the attached draft report. This includes concurrence with the priorities suggested by the proposed projects, the proposed grouping of actions within specific projects (recognizing that refinements will be ongoing as these projects get underway), and concurrence with staff efforts to initiate the project-level environmental documentation process at this time, consistent with the programmatic environmental documentation currently underway. With Policy Group concurrence staff will continue to advance and refine the implementation planning process as indicated in the attached draft plan.